Recognition of IIMC's Diplomas

2968. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether degree/diploma awarded by prestigious organisations *i.e.* Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), New Delhi in the field of Public Relations are not being recognised and considered by organisations like ONGC in the recruitment procedure;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ensure recognition of these degrees/diplomas by ONGC;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (d) Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has reported that degree/diploma awarded by Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), New Delhi, is of one year duration. Under the recruitment regulations of ONGC in vogue, qualifications prescribed for employment in ONGC in the discipline of Public Relations are 1st Class Post Graudate degree or minimum 2 years diploma in Public Relations/Journalism/Mass Communication. As such, if one year degree/diploma awarded by IIMC is considered for employment in ONGC, it may cause repercussions in recruitments in other disciplines, where the prescribed qualification is Post Graduate degree or diploma of two year duration. Hence, the candidates possessing only one year degree/diploma of the IIMC are not considered for employment in ONGC.

Finding of Oil off Yeman Coast

2969. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reliance Industries have found oil off the Yeman Coast;

(b) if so, the estimate of oil and gas in this block; and

(c) by when commercial production is likely to commence from there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) has informed that the Joint Venture in which the company is a partner has found oil in an onland block in Masila Basin in Yemen.

(b) As per RIL's preliminary estimates, its share of reserves is in the range of 40-60 million barrels of recoverable oil.

(c) The leads obtained from the discoveries are to be pursued and techno-commercial viability established before commercial production can commence, for which no time frame can be laid down.

Establishment of octane testing centres in Chhattisgarh

2970. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Chhattisgarh has requested any financial assistance for establishment of stationary as well as mobile octane testing centres in Chhattisgarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the request has been accepted by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, Indian Oil Corporation has a notified Static Laboratory at Nishatpura (Bhopal) with Octane testing facility, which caters the need of Chhattisgarh area. There are 2 Mobile Labs under operation in the State of Chhattisgarh. These Mobile Labs are not equipped with Octane testing facility.

Criteria for Allotment of LPG Agencies

2971. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria for allotment of LPG agencies and the number of agencies in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether in many cases the agencies are storing far more cylinders than the approved capacity and many of them are engaged